

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Congressman Mike Pence, a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, issued the following statement in support of H.R. 1905, the Iran Threat Reduction and Syria Human Rights Act of 2012:

"This bipartisan legislation will strengthen sanctions against Iran under current law. For far too long, Iran has been among the world's foremost state sponsors of terror. Allowing the Iranian regime to obtain nuclear weapons would destabilize the Middle East and threaten our most-cherished ally, Israel, as well as U.S. interests around the globe," Pence said.

"As a cosponsor of this legislation and a member of the conference committee that produced Iran sanctions legislation last Congress, I wholeheartedly support passage of the Iran Threat Reduction and Syria Human Rights Act of 2012."

Background:

-H.R. 1905 – the Iran Threat Reduction and Syria Human Rights Act of 2012 would:

- Direct the President to impose sanctions on persons that sell or provide Iran with refined petroleum products,
- Direct the President to impose sanctions on persons that knowingly export, transfer, or otherwise facilitate the shipment of any goods, services or technology that contributes to the ability of the Iranian government to acquire or develop weapons of mass destruction,
- Strengthen a number of financial sanctions to restrict Iran's access to the international financial system, and

- Enact sanctions against human rights violators in both Iran and Syria.

-This bipartisan, bicameral legislation is aimed at preventing Iran from repatriating revenue from the sale of crude oil and other sources of capital necessary to fund a nuclear weapons program.

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